



## LILIIHA/ PUUNUI/ ALEWA/ KAMEHAMEHA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 14

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION OFFICE • HONOLULU HALE, ROOM 406  
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### **DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2014** **MA'EMA'E ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Wesley Fong called the Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 Board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. **A quorum was established with eight (8) Board members present.** Note – This 13 member Board requires seven (7) members to establish quorum and take official Board action.

Board Members Present: Michelle Achong, Tyler Dos Santos-Tam, Wesley Fong, Carole Kaapu, Loy Kuo, Brandon Mitsuda, Donald Nitta, Ethann Oki, and Dale White (arrived at 8:26 p.m.).

Board Members Absent: Robert Stubbs.

Vacancies: There were three (3) vacancies on the board: two (2) in subdistrict 1 and one (1) vacancy in subdistrict 3.

Guests: Captain Cary K. Yamamoto and Captain Sean Arakaki (Honolulu Fire Department); Sergeant Keith Kessler and Lieutenant Bryan West (Honolulu Police Department); Councilmember Carol Fukunaga; Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply); Keith Yamamoto (Governor Neal Abercrombie's Representative); Steve Miller; Burt Lau; Lori Seto; Ronald Higa; Les Chan; Max Fowler; Karen Chun; Francis Nishimura; Tyler Green; Willa Donnelly; C. Pavlosky and Stephen Saito (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES: There were no volunteers to fill the three (3) board vacancies at this time.

### GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FORUM

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) – Captain Cary K. Yamamoto and Captain Sean Arakaki reported the following:

- September 2014 Statistics: There was 1 structure fire, 1 rubbish fire, 1 vehicle fire, 75 medical emergencies, and 29 miscellaneous emergencies.
- Halloween Safety Tips: Ensure Halloween costumes are fire resistant, made of lightweight fabric, brightly colored, and clearly visible to motorists. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape. Keep the length of costumes short to prevent tripping. It is suggested to wear a natural mask of cosmetics rather than a mask that may restrict breathing or obscure vision. Children should carry a flashlight.
- Natural Disaster Safety Tip: HFD encourages community members to prepare a survival kit and to know the location of the nearest shelter. For more information, visit the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Emergency Management (DEM) website at [www.honolulu.gov/dem](http://www.honolulu.gov/dem).
- Field Operations: Captain Arakaki noted in July 2014, a complaint was made to Councilmember Carol Fukunaga's office about HFD spraying water at Na Pueo Park. A formal investigation concluded that Nuuanu Fire Station suspend HFD use of Na Pueo Park. Councilmember Fukunaga's office guided HFD to contact Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 Vice Chair Fong to address the community's concerns. Captain Arakaki noted that Na Pueo Park is used because of the low occupancy usage.
- Drills: HFD executes drills to follow their mission statement to provide a safer community through preparation, prevention, and effective emergency response. Na Pueo Park was the recommended place for HFD to execute monthly required drills with fire hydrant access.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Sirens: Mitsuda asked and Captain Yamamoto answered that HFD uses the siren at HFD's discretion in the early morning and attempts to be courteous. The siren will be used if the situation requires it. Mitsuda asked for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) policy for the usage of siren. Captain Yamamoto noted that he does not have an answer.
2. Response: Lieutenant Bryan West noted that quick response from HFD is important in cases of emergency. HFD practicing drills allows them to be the first at the scene of emergency.



3. Drill Times: Captain Arakaki answered for Mitsuda that HFD executes drills during business hours, trying their best to not do drills on the weekends.
4. Noise: Oki noted that Na Pueo Park has a narrow roadway entry and the truck are in a close proximity to residential housing. Captain Arakaki noted that the fire trucks are left running when the fire hydrant are in use and training will be on a spontaneous basis twice a week for each of the three (3) HFD platoons.
5. Alewa Neighborhood Park: Oki suggested the use of Alewa Neighborhood Park for drills.
6. Duration: Captain Arakaki answered for Kuo that the drills last no longer than one (1) hour per session.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Lieutenant Bryan West reported the following:

- September 2014 Compared to August 2014 Statistics: There were 6/10 Motor Vehicle Thefts, 4/2 Burglaries, 35/38 Thefts, 9/2 Unauthorized Entry of Motor Vehicle (UEMV), and 1,280/1,285 total calls for service.
- Safety Tips: Be prepared for tropical storms and do not give out loose candy during Halloween.
- Sirens: Lieutenant West answered for Mitsuda that the HFD sirens are a safety precaution and aids in the avoidance of vehicle driving on the road.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Pedestrians: Lieutenant West answered for Kuo that pedestrians do not have the right of way and must always look both ways.
2. Speeding: Lieutenant West answered for Mitsuda that HPD did not observe drivers speeding while monitoring Liliha Street near Ekekela Street.
3. Mopeds: Lieutenant West answered for Office of Housing (HOU) Director Yang that loud moped noise is a statewide problem.

Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Representative – Customer Services Department (CSD) Deputy Director Randy Leong reported the following:

- Parks: The Lanakila District Park basketball backboard replacement is anticipated to open bid on Monday, December 1, 2014.
- Speed Limit: Department of Transportation Services (DTS) will conduct a speed study in front of St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii consisting of research, site observations, and an analysis of the traffic history. DTS will inform the Board of the findings by January 2015.
- Traffic Safety: DTS will conduct a safety study on Liliha Street from Wyllie to Judd Streets, which consist of research, site observation, and an analysis of the traffic history. DTS will inform the Board of findings by January 2015. Investigation of Liliha Street at Ekekela Place was conducted and confirmed that the updated "Pedestrian Crossing" sign and pedestrian crossing pavement marking were installed on Thursday, October 2, 2014. However, the "Pedestrian Crossing" sign with the "Diagonal Arrow" plate, Makai bound is obstructed by a bus sign and the pedestrian crossing pavement markings on Liliha Street are faded. A work order was issued to Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) to relocate/install the pedestrian crossing signs and repaint the pavement marking. DTS will also install additional pedestrian crossing signs on Liliha Street at Ekekela Place to better alert Makai and Mauka bound motorists of the marked crosswalk.
- Repave/Repair: Ekekela Place was resurfaced on March 2010 and roadways remains in good condition. A service request was prepared for curb and gutter repair to address the ponding problem and work is planned to be performed when in-house road crew resources are available.
- Panui Street: Corporal Fabian Mata noted that Panui Street is a private road, is unable to identify and/or determine who owns 7214 Panui Street, and did not observe any persons loitering on the property. On Tuesday, September 16, 2014, Corporal Mata spoke to Vice Chair Fong regarding this issue and Vice Chair Fong was unaware of the complaint.
- Bus Stop: The terminus bus stop on Liliha Street fronts a vacant remnant lot that provides the least impact to residents because the homes in the area are built fairly close to the roadway. Several years ago, the Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 discussed the issue about the bus stop and concluded that the bus stop should remain at its present location. Also, motorist should exercise caution, patience, and prudent driving when slowly entering Liliha Street from the Namauu Street stop sign and proceed when it is clear to do so. The Traffic Engineering Division of DTS recently conducted a field inspection to evaluate and recommend various mitigated measures to address the situation. When a determination is made, DTS will report to the Board.
- Asphalt Walkway: A request was prepared to check the asphalt walkway on Lanakila Street. DFM needs a confirmed location of the walkway from Nitta. DFM assumes the location is Mauka of Keola Street.

- Telephone Pole: Changeover for the telephone pole on Lolena Street was completed on Tuesday, August 5, 2014. David Kokata of Department of Design and Construction (DDC) was contacted on Thursday, September 11, 2014 and was told to notify a utility company to remove pole.

Questions, comments and concerns followed: Lanakila Street: Dos Santos-Tam noted that between Keola Street and Kunawai Street, the sidewalk on the diamond side of the street have the asphalt on the sidewalk hitted and the telephone pole is in the middle of the sidewalk. Dos Santos-Tam requested the location to be made safer. This question was noted to be the same as the Safe Walk to School agenda item.

**Vice Chair Fong moved the agenda out of order to address agenda item “UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS.”**

Asphalt Walkways on Lanikila Street Improvement: Vice Chair Fong concluded that agenda item 7.5. and 7.10. were the same and are completed. Leong will address agenda item 7.5. and 7.10. with a report at the next regular meeting. Agenda item 7.9. “Repaved/Resurface Clarification” has been concluded.

**Vice Chair Fong returned the agenda to agenda item “District 6 Councilmember Carol Fukunaga.”**

District 6 Councilmember Carol Fukunaga — Councilmember Carol Fukunaga reported the following:

- Community Forum: On Wednesday, September 24, 2014, at Lanakila Elementary School, an update was given to residents and stakeholders on upcoming road repairs and “Complete Streets” projects in the community.
- Walk Audits: Recommendations to the walk audits with Dan Burden was distributed with a summary.
- Na Pueo Park: Commentary about an update on the usage of Na Pueo Park as an Alzheimer’s Facility was distributed.
- Bill 52: Bill 52 allows city officials to enter and remove health hazard on private property. Bill 52 will go to committee hearing on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Amendments were made for the conditions of cars that would be removed.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed: Resident Francis Nishimura thanked Councilmember Fukunaga for the diligent of work on the Kuakini Street Extension project.

District 7 Councilmember Joey Manahan – No representative was present; no report was provided.

13th Senatorial District Suzanne Chun Oakland – No representative was present; a handout was provided. Vice Chair Fong thanked Senator Chun Oakland for hosting the Children’s Day event.

14th Senatorial District Senator Donna Mercado Kim – No representative was present; no report was provided.

District 27 Representative Takashi Ohno – No representative was present; no report was provided.

District 28 Representative John Mizuno – No representative was present; no report was provided.

Governor Neil Abercrombie’s Representative – Keith Yamamoto reported the following:

- Message: Governor Neil Abercrombie noted appreciation for the Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 and community for the reported concerns. Governor Abercrombie encouraged the community to go out and vote in the 2014 general election.
- Repaving: There was no response on the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) on Palama Street repaving.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Grants-in-aid (GIA): Dos Santos-Tam asked if Governor Abercrombie would consider giving out GIA to non-profit in the neighborhood community. Yamamoto noted that he will follow up with more information.
2. Vineyard Boulevard: Kuo asked if the State could consider the proposal of advocacy efforts for a Vineyard Street center median U-turn at Onomea Street. Yamamoto will defer the suggestion to Department of Transportation (HDOT).

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Iris Oda reported the following:

- Main Break: There was an eight (8)-inch cast iron main break on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 1620 North School Street.

- Workshop Schedule: BWS and Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden offer Saturday Workshops that highlight the concept of xeriscaping. The new 2014 to 2015 Xeriscape schedule feature useful tips on how to maintain a water-efficient garden. Upcoming workshops include the Neem Tree Workshop on Friday, October 10, 2014; the Rain Barrel Catchment Workshop on Saturday, October 25, 2014; and the Economical Aquaponics Workshop on Saturday, November 8, 2014.
- Xeriscape Garden Update: To prevent the spread of invasive pests, BWS is no longer offering free mulch at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden as of July 2014. Mulch piles are potential breeding sites for the Rhinoceros Beetle. The demonstration garden will still remain open to the public Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Mulch Alternatives: BWS and Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden will be offering "Simple Backyard Composting" workshops starting February 2015 to educate the community about alternatives to commercial mulch. For more information about Halawa Xeriscape Garden, contact BWS Communications Office at 748-5041.
- Projects under Construction: There are two (2) projects under construction, including Liliha Water System Improvement, Phase A; and Water Main Replacement at Various Streets.
- Projects in Design: There are three (3) projects in design, including Kamehameha Heights Water System Improvements, Part III; Kawanakakoa Place 8-Inch Main; and Liliha Water System Improvements, Part V.
- Planned Projects: There are three (3) planned projects, including Apio Lane 8-Inch Main, Lanakila Water System Improvements, and North School Street Water System Improvements.
- Hurricane Preparedness: A cap full's measurement is about two (2) teaspoons of chlorox and a drop is 1/100 of a teaspoon. Properly stored water can be stored and safe for six (6) months to drink for hurricane preparedness.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Projects in Design: Oki asked and Oda answered that projects in design will be starting construction in Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17).
2. Planned Projects: Oda answered for Mitsuda that the planned projects are still in the planning stages and specific details are not available.
3. Water Lines: Nishimura noted that his water line is on Kealakai Street. Oda will follow up.

#### PRESENTATIONS:

Sand Island Homeless Housing — Office of Housing (HOU) Executive Director Jun Yang presented the following:

- Sand Island Homeless Housing: On Friday, October 10, 2014, the City's administration went before the Board of Land and Natural Resources and gained approval of right of entry and process to gain leases with Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and has not yet granted access to the Sand Island site for homeless housing. The City's administration will focus on the due diligence of environmental and civil work to search for any potential hazards that need to be addressed. DLNR mandated that the City's administration receive approval from the Department of Health (DOH) on anything done at the Sand Island site. HOU has been working on a study of services that would interest homeless individuals. Sand Island site is seen as a short term intermediary to have the homeless assessed by the vulnerability measure done by HOU and refer them to the appropriate housing advisors. The Sand Island housing and evaluation would be a measure made to see if the Housing First initiative is the right choice for the homeless and that the site be used as a transition program into Housing First. Transition to Sand Island is voluntary.
- Housing First Manual: The 2013 Mayor's Homeless Action Plan allows the City to address the homelessness issue. The action plan takes the housing first model that focuses on the chronically homeless in a scattered housing setting. According to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2013 Annual Homeless Assessment Report there are 4,712 homeless people on Oahu. 1,633 are unsheltered and 558 are chronically homeless. The City's Housing First program will look to house 115 chronically homeless individuals in Waianae Coast, Chinatown and Waikiki based off the Institute for Human Services (IHS) proposal. This specific population does not normally receive housing because these particular individuals are difficult to work with. The City looks to integrate these individuals into society to reduce the finances for emergency services for the chronically homeless that the taxpayers pay for if the chronically homeless do not have healthcare.

Questions, comments, and concerns followed:

1. Healthcare: Executive Director Yang answered for a community member that the costs for the chronically homeless to receive healthcare would reduce the cost for the care of the individual in the long run because the individual will receive the healthcare the individual needs instead of costly emergency hospital visits.
2. Puahi Hale: Executive Director Yang answered for Vice Chair Fong that Puahi Hale is a City owned property in Chinatown operating as a single room occupancy (SRO) with residents mostly coming from off the streets.
3. Sand Island Timeline: Executive Director Yang answered for community member Steve Miller that HOU is currently working on the processing of the due diligence of the safety of the Sand Island site and was looking to have the site running potentially in December 2014 if the property is safe.
4. Homeless Population: Executive Director Yang answered for Vice Chair Fong that there are many homeless in Kaka'ako.
5. Honolulu Community College (HCC): A community member noted the increase of homelessness activity near HCC. Executive Director Yang was aware.
6. Outcome: Executive Director Yang answered for community member Max Fowler that Sand Island was supposed to be considered a short term site as a residential transition center that would provide in the best outcome public utilities and public showers and restrooms.
7. Inventory: Executive Director Yang answered for Kuo that the 12 buildings in the City's inventory and Winston Hale and Puahi Hale would be housing used to house the homeless. The other 10 properties will be looked into. The general funds operation budget would need to be used within one (1) year which is why the housing first program is for only a year. HOU is looking to expand the duration of the housing first project by starting more development.
8. Rentals: Executive Director Yang answered for a community member that HOU is looking to work with property managers to work with the City to allow them to rent small units to house those under Housing First.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS: There was no residents' concerns at this time.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **The Monday, September 8, 2014 regular meeting minutes were ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY as amended, 9-0-0 (Aye: Achong, Dos Santos-Tam, Fong, Kaapu, Kuo, Mitsuda, Nitta, Oki, and White).** Amendments included the following:

- Page 4: Under the subheading, "Expedited Process," "provided" should be replaced with, "added," and after "\$100, 000," should be, "to the City's budget for."
- Page 5: Under the subheading, "45th Anniversary," "\$50" should be replaced with "\$15."

#### UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS:

Complete Streets Report: Dos Santos-Tam noted that Council will consider a resolution 14-214 to initiate the process to report unsafe sidewalks.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Cars Parked on Unimproved Sidewalks: Nitta noted that Councilmember Manahan's office will give an update to report on cars parked on unimproved sidewalks. A community member noted that his car was ticketed twice for being parked on the Street on Ahiahi Street and won his case.

Repave Liliha Street: Dos Santos-Tam noted that the BWS map distributed to the Board by BWS representative Oda shows that BWS has no noted work on Liliha Street and Houghtailing Street.

#### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center — Vice Chair Fong noted the following: 45th Anniversary: The Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center will be celebrating its 45th on Friday, October 17, 2014. Pre-sale lunch tickets are available by calling 847-1322, extension 28. If purchased before Friday, October 10, 2014, tickets will cost \$15 for a multiethnic lunch. The program itself is free. Retired Senator Akaka will give the opening message at the event.

Other Community Organizations: Kaapu noted that there will be a free Cultural Celebration of Unity event on Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. this even will honor Pacific nation kinship with a day of dance, music, food, arts, crafts, and games at The Towers of Kuhio Park.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report: White noted a total balance of \$402.79. The report was filed.

NB14 Facebook Page/Twitter Account: No report was provided.

Report on Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) Citizen Advisory Committee: No report was provided.

Sunshine Law Training Option: Vice Chair Fong noted that the subject of discussion has been concluded.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 regular meeting will be on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ma'ema'e Elementary School cafeteria.
- Appreciation: Mitsuda noted his appreciation for the Neighborhood Assistants for the effort made to assist the Board at each Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights Neighborhood Board No. 14 regular meeting. Mitsuda noted appreciation for current Neighborhood Assistant, Stephen Saito.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Submitted by: Stephen Saito, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Lori Snyder, Neighborhood Assistant

Finalized by: Vice-Chair Wesley Fong